

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Mike Wade

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 03, 2004 5:44 PM

**To:** Alemi, Manucher

**Cc:** Guivetchi, Kamyar; 'Anisa Divine'

**Subject:** Additional comments

Manucher:

Please accept these additional comments from Anisa Divine on a few water transfer/WUE subjects. They were part of previous Ag Caucus discussions but were omitted from documents sent to you earlier this week..

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks.

Mike



040205\_AJD  
nments to DWR.doc

Mike Wade  
California Farm Water Coalition  
Agricultural Water Management Council

March 3, 2004  
Anisa Divine

I have read over & slightly revised my comments (see below). Also, I think that I argued for the fallowing included in the Ag Land Stewardship narrative to be moved to the Water Transfer narrative. Also, I find the distinction of Facilitate Voluntary Water Transfers (EWMP 4) to be problematic. I fear that I have ended up arguing out of both sides of my mouth on these topics. This is a sticky wicket, indeed.

At any rate, my point remains that the QSA & IID/MWD program cannot be listed simply as Water Transfer. As a consequence of this consideration, I guess that all activities that lead to water transfers need to be listed as whatever strategy was used to develop the water available for that transfer, then the amount of water made available can be included under Water Transfer.

My comments of Feb 5, 2004:

Regarding the QSA and the IIG Table and Table 6.2

1 -- Note that Facilitate Water Transfer is EWMP 4 (see attached AWMC EWMP file). Therefore, Ag to Urban & Ag to Ag Water Transfers represent Ag WUEs. Also note that the EWMPs are not additive -- development of some preclude development of others. Therefore, having a strategy Ag WUEs and another Water Transfers is confusing.

For IID, implementation of many if not all of the other Ag WUE EWMPs depended on reaching an agreement with SDCWA on EWMP 4 Facilitate Voluntary Water Transfers.

2 -- If the IID Board's plan to purchase farmland comes to fruition, I guess the purchase & management for temporary fallowing represent Ag Land Stewardship. Even if the Board does not make this purchase, fallowed land as the scenarios are currently laid out represents Ag Land Stewardship. A portion of this water (1/3) must flow to the Salton Sea. The remainder will be made available for transfer, but that water would not represent a potential benefit. However, neither of these represents potential benefit, so their inclusion as fallowing in Ag Land Stewardship seems appropriate.

The only thing that needs to be done is for that amount to be taken out of the Potential Supply entry under water transfer. 3 -- In Year 8, Ag WUEs in support of EWMP 4 Facilitate Voluntary Water Transfers, will be coming online. That water will be used by IID for transfer to SDCWA under the terms of the IID/SDCWA contract & in compliance with the QSA. By Year 15 all transferred water (EWMP 4) will be the result of Ag WUEs.

4 -- All water transferred under the IID/MWD program is the result of Ag WUE projects -- with verified results (KAFY) that change from year to year. This should be listed as AG WUEs -- not as Water Transfer.

5 -- Lining of the AAC is not an Ag WUE -- that water never reaches the IID service area. So this may be a legitimate listing for the Water Transfer entry -- and it does represent a net supply benefit for CA, as the water currently flows to Mexico. On the other hand, this may be a Conveyance project -- I haven't read that section lately

6 -- Lining of the Coachella Canal is not an Ag WUE -- most of this seepage flows west to the IID service area. Some of this may be accessed by IID crops; however, some surely flows to the saline groundwater that underlies the IID service area. Therefore, this water would also represent potential supply benefit -- but one with Salton Sea impacts for the 1<sup>st</sup> few years that are being compensated by fallowing in the IID service area.

6 -- Activity (fallowing) related to the Salton Sea is neither water transfer nor an Ag WUE -- it might most closely be characterized as Ecosystem Restoration (however, more accurately, the are ecosystem maintenance until another agency takes responsibility). These Eco waters are made available through temporary fallowing, which is Ag Land Stewardship -- no matter what, none of this water should be listed as Water Transfer.